

HOMESTEAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK



Jonathan Britton, Principal

CATHERINE LOPEZ, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

LAMOND MORRISON, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

2020-2021

650 NW 2nd Avenue
Miami, FL 33030
305.247.4221

9:10AM-3:50PM

Homesteadmiddle.org

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Homestead Middle School

Miami-Dade County Public Schools
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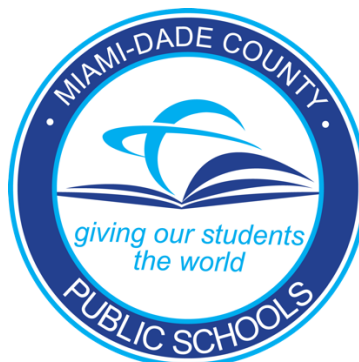
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Alberto M. Carvalho

School Operations

Mrs. Valtena G. Brown

Deputy Superintendent/Chief Operating Officer



Vision Statement

We provide a world class education for every student.

Mission Statement

To be the preeminent provider of the highest quality education that empowers all students to be productive lifelong learners and responsible global citizens.

Values

Excellence - *We pursue the highest standards in academic achievement and organizational performance.*

Equity - *We foster an environment that serves all students and aspires to eliminate the achievement gap.*

Student Focus - *We foster an environment that serves all students and aspires to eliminate the achievement gap.*

Innovation - *We encourage creativity and adaptability to new ideas and methods that will support and improve student learning.*

Accountability - *We accept responsibility for our successes and challenges and seek to transparently share our work in an ethical manner, as we strive towards continuous improvement.*



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

Superintendent of Schools
Alberto M. Carvalho

Miami-Dade County School Board
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Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman
Dr. Martin Karp
Dr. Lubby Navarro
Dr. Marta Pérez
Mari Tere Rojas

August 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian:

On behalf of the School Board and the dedicated teachers and staff of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), it is with much pride and enthusiasm that I welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. As we continue responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, we understand the critical role of schooling in providing students and families with a sense of routine and comfort. We remain eager to greet your child and provide him/her with the knowledge and skills needed to thrive in our increasingly globalized society. Students can expect to receive a world-class education in an "A"-rated school system that celebrates their uniqueness while fostering curiosity and creativity within a safe and secure learning environment.

This Parent/Student Handbook outlines the major policies and procedures that guide student life in our school system. I strongly encourage you to familiarize yourself with its contents as students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the information and guidelines contained herein.

Furthermore, it is my hope that you and your child will avail yourselves of the numerous resources we provide. As a parent/guardian, you are a vital partner in your child's education and are welcome to actively participate in school and district functions. I encourage you to stay connected by downloading the M-DCPS application on your mobile device and by following us on social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, etc.). For more information regarding specific resources and activities at your child's school, please contact the school directly and ensure that the school's staff is provided with your most updated contact information.

Thank you for your partnership and for entrusting us with your child's education. I wish you and your child much success this academic year.

Sincerely,

Alberto M. Carvalho
Superintendent of Schools

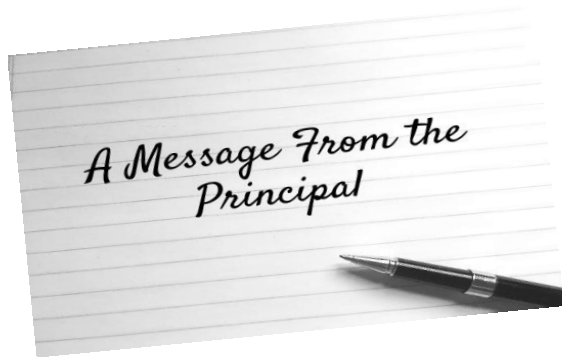
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School Board Administration Building • 1450 N.E. 2nd Avenue • Miami, FL 33132
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Message from Principal.....	7
School's Mission Statement.....	8
School Information.....	9
• <i>Bell Schedule</i>	
• <i>Early Sign Out</i>	
• <i>Late Arrival</i>	
• <i>Opening and Closing Hours of Schools</i>	
Important Dates.....	10
• <i>Back to School Nights - Open House</i>	
• <i>Interim Progress Report & Report Card Distribution</i>	
Academic Programs – Student Progression Plan (SPP).....	10
Bring Your Own Devices (BYOD).....	11
Closing of School.....	11
Cyberbullying.....	11
Discrimination.....	11
Dismissal.....	11
Elevator.....	11
Emergency Contact Information.....	12
Fieldtrips.....	12
Homework.....	12
Interscholastic Athletics/Intramurals.....	12
Lost and Found.....	12
Mealtime Environment.....	13
• <i>Free Breakfast</i>	
• <i>Free/Reduced Price Lunch Program</i>	
• <i>Meal Prices</i>	
• <i>PAYPAMS</i>	
• <i>Peanut-Allergies/Peanut-Free School</i>	
Mental Health Services.....	14
Newsletter.....	14

Parent Toolkits.....	14
Protocols for Addressing Concerns.....	14
Public/Private Collaboration.....	14
Safety and Security.....	14-16
• <i>Code Yellow/Code Red</i>	
• <i>Emergency Operations Plan</i>	
• <i>Fire Drills</i>	
• <i>Visitors</i>	
School Activities/Clubs.....	17
School Center for Special Instructions (SCSI).....	16
School Class Pictures Process.....	16
School Transportation.....	16-17
Special Education/504.....	17
Student Records.....	17
Student Services.....	17
Student Success Centers.....	17
The Parent Academy	17-18
Transgender.....	18
Verification of Residency.....	18
Volunteer Program.....	18
COVID-19 Policies and Procedures-Schoolhouse Instructional Model.....	19
Appendix A – School Calendars.....	27
Appendix B – School Board Policies and State Statutes.....	29-41
Appendix C – Disclosure at Time of Registration.....	42
Appendix D – Discrimination/Harassment Poster and Policy.....	43



Jonathan Britton

Dear Homestead Middle School Family,

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year.... A year where we will **"Rise and Reach Beyond Excellence and ALWAYS Putting our Excellence on Display"**. When asked about the greatest boxer of all times, most people would unanimously say Muhammad Ali. When asked about the greatest Olympic basketball team of all times, most people would declare the 1992 Dream Team. When asked about the greatest middle school in South Dade, the answer is Homestead Middle School. At Homestead Middle, we offer students a well-rounded educational experience including challenging academics, competitive sports and a host of student services that aid students to reach their full potential. Additionally, Homestead Middle is home to a strong international baccalaureate choice program ensuring students are exposed to the power of international awareness and service with the backdrop of language. This year promises to be one for the history books, and we welcome you to help us write this great and excellent story.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Britton

Jonathan Britton, Principal

Homestead Middle School

Mission Statement

The mission of Homestead Middle School is to provide a rigorous and engaging curriculum in a safe, nurturing, collaborative environment, where a reflective, knowledgeable faculty welcomes students and addresses their diverse needs.

Our school community is committed to empowering our students with the intellectual, social, and emotional skills to succeed in a global, digital society as we challenge them to rise to their potential.

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



HOMESTEAD MIDDLE SCHOOL

STAGE I-REMOTE LEARNING BELL SCHEDULE

2020-2021

4X4 BLOCK SCHEDULE

Period	Time	Duration
Period 1/2	9:10AM-10:41AM	90 minutes
Passing/ Brain Break	10:41AM-10:49AM	8 minutes
Period 3/4	10:49AM-12:14PM	85 minutes
Passing/ Brain Break	12:14PM-12:22PM	8 minutes
Period 5/6	12:22PM-2:17PM	115 minutes
Lunch	1:45PM-2:15PM	30 minutes
Passing/ Brain Break	2:17PM-2:25PM	8 minutes
Period 7/8	2:25PM-3:50PM	85 minutes



Excellence on Display!

- **Early Sign Out**

The early release of students causes disruption to the academic performance of all students and may create safety and security concerns. No students shall be released within the final thirty (30) minutes of the school day unless authorized by the Principal or Principal's designee (i.e., emergency, sickness).

- **Late Arrival**

Students who are tardy to school must report to the Attendance Office to secure an admit. Excessive tardies may result in loss of privileges, detention, parent conference, and/or suspension.

- **Opening and Closing Hours of Schools**

School Hours (Students):

9:10AM-3:50PM

Office Hours:

8:30AM-4:00PM

Important Dates

- **Back to School Nights – Open House**

School Level	Window Period	SCHOOL DATE
Elementary/K-8 Centers	TBD	
Middle Schools		TBD
Senior High Schools		
Special Centers		

- **Interim Progress Report & Report Card Distribution**

Grading Period	Interim Progress Report Distribution	Report Card Distribution
1	9/25/2020	11/6/2020
2	12/4/2020	2/5/2021
3	2/19/2021	4/16/2021
4	5/7/2021	6/25/2021

Academic Programs – Student Progression Plan (SPP)

Provides guidance to teachers, school and district administrators, parents and other stakeholders regarding the requirements and procedures for students to progress from one grade to the next, kindergarten through grade 12 and adult education. The information presented in this document is derived from requirements set forth by Florida Statutes, State Board of Education Rules and Policies established by The School Board of Miami-Dade County.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)

Bring Your Own Device allows students, parents, staff and guests to use their own technology during the day to enhance the learning experience. Examples of the types of technology which can be used are Windows laptops/tablets, Mac laptops, Android tablets, and iPads.

Bullying/Cyberbullying

The School Board has adopted a policy Against Bullying and Harassment with Bullying defined by state law as systematically and chronically inflicting physical harm or psychological distress on one or more students. Complaints of bullying should be reported to the Principal promptly. Cyberbullying is a form of bullying that takes place virtually over digital devices such as computers, smartphones, and tablets. Cyberbullying most commonly takes place via social media, texting, instant messaging, and email. Say NO to cyberbullying! If you or someone you know is being bullied, report this information to the Bullying/Harassment Anonymous Helpline at 305-995-CARE (2273) or the school principal. Resources:

- <http://studentservices.dadeschools.net/#>
- http://studentservices.dadeschools.net/bullying/b-h_policy_manual.asp
- StopBullying.gov
- <https://www.netismartz.org/Cyberbullying>

Closing of School

The emergency closing of a school for any cause, such as weather or in which the safety of individuals may be endangered, is only at the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.

Discrimination/Harassment

The School Board has a prohibition against discrimination/harassment based on sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, citizenship status, religion, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, gender identification, social and family background, linguistic preference, pregnancy, and any other basis prohibited by law. Students are encouraged to promptly report incidents of discriminatory or harassing conduct to their Principal or the Office of Civil Rights Compliance (CRC) so that the conduct can be addressed before it becomes severe, pervasive, or persistent. The School Board has also adopted a policy Against Bullying and Harassment with Bullying defined by state law as systematically and chronically inflicting physical harm or psychological distress on one or more students. Complaints of bullying should be reported to the Principal promptly.

Dismissal

- Students are dismissed at 3:50p.m. Security and identified personnel are assigned to supervise exits at dismissal time. Students are to follow instructions applicable to their personal circumstances, e.g. After- School Care, bus pick-up location and/or parent pick-up procedures.
- Early Sign Out: The early release of students causes disruption to the academic performance of all students and may create safety and security concerns. No students should be released within the final 30 minutes of the school day unless authorized by the Principal (i.e., emergency, sickness). If a student must leave early, a parent, legal guardian, or their designee, must go to the office to sign the student out. Government issued I.D. must be presented before a student will be released.

Elevator

The school elevator is to be used by individuals who are handicapped/injured and cannot use the stairs.

Emergency Contact Information

Emergency Student Data Forms are distributed during the first week of school. Students are expected to bring the forms home and present them to their parents/guardians. The form must be carefully completed and returned. The information provided on the Emergency Student Data Forms will enable school staff to contact the parent/guardian immediately in the case of an emergency. Parent/Guardian(s) that provide a cell phone number will receive text messages should an emergency arise. Students may only be released from school to the persons listed on the form after presenting a picture identification. No persons, other than school staff, will have access to the information submitted. Any divorced or separated parent contesting the information in the Emergency Student Data Form may seek assistance from the court governing their divorce, separation, or custody matters to compel the enrolling parent to revise the information.

Fieldtrips

All fieldtrips must be approved by the principal and Region Superintendent. Participation in fieldtrips requires that the student present a fieldtrip form signed by the parent/guardian to his/her teacher(s) in advance. In addition, at times vendors who have a "no refund" policy will require schools to pay the full amount of the fieldtrip prior to the event. In this case, students/parents will be notified in advance of the vendor's "no refund" policy.

Homework

Principals are encouraged to work with teachers and parents to implement guidelines found in [Homework Policy 2330](#). Teachers are required to provide students with make-up assignments once the absence has been excused; however, it is the responsibility of the student to request the assignments from the teacher(s).

Interscholastic Athletics/Intramurals

The Division of Athletics, Activities and Accreditation works with M-DCPS school sites to provide students with opportunities to participate in athletics at various levels. Athletic programs are offered at K-8 Centers, middle schools and high schools. At the middle schools, athletics consists of intramural and interscholastic programs. At the high school level, interscholastic programs are offered at most senior high schools.

For participation in interscholastic athletics at the middle school level, a student must have a 2.00 GPA in conduct and academics to participate. His or her parent must sign the M-DCPS *Middle School Athletic Program Consent and Release from Liability Certificate*. For participation in interscholastic athletics at the high school level, a GPA of 2.00 in conduct and academics is required except for incoming freshman. All participants must purchase athletic and/or football insurance to participate and must have a current physical form on file.

The parents and student must also sign the *Contract for Student Participation in Interscholastic Competitions or Performances*. The District also has policies concerning transfer students and

participation in athletics. If a parent has questions concerning these policies, he or she should contact the Division of Athletics, Activities and Accreditation.

Lost and Found

Students should take any found items to the school office. If you lose something, please check in the main office to claim your possession. Mark all personal items brought to school with the student's first and last name for easy identification

Mealtime Environment

School lunchtime should be an opportunity to encourage healthy lifestyle, promote socialization that will affect early behaviors.

The Department of Food and Nutrition serves healthy meals daily. Please visit nutrition.dadeschools.net for details on menus, programs, and services.

- **Free Breakfast**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools offers breakfast free of charge to all M-DCPS Students. The breakfast at no charge is not dependent on the student qualifying for free/reduced price meals at lunch.

- **Free/Reduced Price Lunch Program**

The USDA Child Nutrition Programs as administered by Miami-Dade County Public Schools provide free and reduced priced lunch for children unable to pay the full price. In place of the paper application, School Meal Program Brochures are distributed to all students informing parents on the application process and meal program. Parents are encouraged to complete an online application at the Department of Food and Nutrition at freeandreducedmealapp.dadeschools.net. Paper applications are available in the school's front office upon request. Many students are approved through Direct Certification and do not submit a lunch application. If approved for meal benefits, the approval status is valid throughout the school year, the summer, and approximately the first twenty days of the next school year.

- **Meal Prices**

Breakfast	School Lunch	Prices
All Students No Charge	Elementary Students	\$ 2.25
Adults \$ 2.00	Middle/Secondary Students	\$ 2.50
	Reduced Price lunch, all grade levels	\$ 0.40
	Adults	\$ 3.00

- **PAYPAMS**

Miami-Dade County Public School's Department of Food and Nutrition allows parents/guardians the convenience to pay online for their child's meals with a credit or debit card at paypams.com. Parents/guardians create an account in PayPams for the child, and will be able to access the following:

- a. view the account balance
- b. schedule automatic payments

- c. receive low-balance e-mail reminders
- d. view a report of daily spending and cafeteria purchases

- ***Peanut Allergies/Peanut-Free School***

Parents/Guardians should notify the school principal of any allergy or other medical condition their child has and request the appropriate forms for completion.

Mental Health Services

Miami-Dade County Public Schools established The Department of Mental Health Services to ensure the coordination of school and community resources and services to support the specific mental health needs of students. The programs in place provide prevention initiatives and also services for students with pre-existing mental health challenges. For assistance contact your child's school, the parent assistance line at (305) 995-7100 or visit www.mentalhealthservices.dadeschools.net.

Newsletters

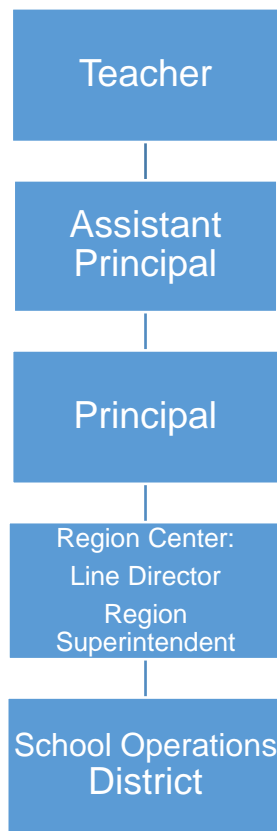
A monthly calendar and newsletter will be sent home with students and posted on the school website at www.homesteadmiddle.org.

Parent Toolkits

Visit <http://toolkit.dadeschools.net> for back-to-school information. Please note, for the opening of 2020-2021 school year, the site will direct you to <http://reopening.dadeschools.net> for the most updated information.

Protocol for Addressing Concerns

For issues involving an individual teacher or class, parent/guardian address their concerns to the following individuals in the order below.



Public-Private Collaboration

Requests for private instructional personnel to collaborate with public instructional personnel in the educational setting should be directed to the Principal for application of District procedures.

Safety and Security

- ***Emergency Operations Plan***

Student and employee safety is a primary concern of the Miami-Dade County Public School (M-DCPS) System. The Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) was created to provide school personnel with the necessary leadership skills and knowledge needed to respond to critical incidents or other related emergencies that may occur in our schools/community. All schools have a site-specific plan to address all types of critical incidents. These plans address the individual needs of the school and provide guidelines for devising methods for communicating with the staff, students, parents/guardians, and the media during a critical incident or an emergency. Some of the protective action procedures include emergency drills (active shooter, hostage, & bomb drills), , the evacuation of students/staff from the building(s), evacuation of the disabled and if necessary the relocation of students/staff from the school campus, lockdown procedures and holding/dismissing students during school and community emergencies. Some important tips for parents/guardians to remember during a Critical Incident are as follows:

- Remain calm;
- Monitor media outlets for updates and official messages from M-DCPS;
- Do not flood the school with telephone calls; and
- If the school is on lockdown, wait until the lockdown is lifted before going to the school.

All school administrators, Region Center Superintendents/Directors and all MDSPD Police officers have been adequately trained in the school EOP and are prepared to respond immediately during a critical incident or emergency to provide safety for all children.

BeSafe Anonymous Reporting System (Insert Flyer)

http://hoover.dadeschools.net/portable_doc/68128_Be_Safe_Anonymous_Reporting_System_Flyer.pdf

- **Fire Drills**

Ten fire drills will take place during the school year according to the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Policy and Emergency Procedures. At the sound of the emergency bell, students must stop what they are doing and follow the teacher's instructions. Students must clear the building promptly by the prescribed route. Any student who is in the hallway or the restroom at the sound of the emergency bell must proceed to the nearest exit and locate the teacher. Students, teachers and staff must remain outside the building until permission is given to re-enter.

- **Lockdown Procedures**

Lockdowns are utilized in response to an immediate threat posed to students and staff. Schools have successfully performed lockdowns in response to police activity adjacent to a facility and potential armed intruders onsite. Students, faculty and staff will comply with all the procedures outlined in the Miami-Dade Public Schools Critical Incident Response Plan and remain on lockdown until a school administrator and/or law enforcement makes an "All Clear" announcement.

- **Threat Assessments**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) has a mandated set of procedures for threat assessment. A threat assessment is a problem-solving approach to violence prevention that involves assessment and intervention with students who have threatened violence in some way. When a preliminary determination is made, by the school administrator or designee, that a student poses a threat of violence or physical harm to him/herself or others is known, a Threat Assessment Team (TAT) shall be notified and shall convene to determine the best course of action. Authorized members of the TAT may obtain criminal history record information, if applicable. Students determined to be at-risk for violence will be referred for mental health services. Threat assessment and disciplinary procedures are separate processes. Regardless of whether a threat is determined to be transient, serious substantive, or very serious substantive, appropriate disciplinary procedures shall be followed in accordance with the Code of Student Conduct.

- **Visitors**

Due to legal regulations, students are not permitted to have guests attend school with them at any time. Parents/guardians are always welcome, and tours may be arranged with the principal to view the school. Classroom visits require a request with 24-hour notice. Visitors must first register with security at the main entrance, sign-in, produce photo identification, and then proceed to register in the main office. Anyone who fails to follow these procedures will be considered a trespasser and is subject to arrest.

School Activities/Clubs

All School Activities, clubs, and organizations must be approved by the principal and conform to the School Board Policies 5845 - Student Activities, 5830 - Student Fundraising and 9211 – Parent Organization, Booster Clubs, and Other Fund-Raising Activities.

- **Clubs**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools' students may participate in a wide variety of activities, including student council, subject-area clubs, honor societies, service clubs, school publications and class activities. School-sponsored clubs may be curriculum-related or noncurricular-related.

Curriculum-related clubs are student groups whose goals are an extension of the activities and objectives in a particular subject area within the school's curriculum. Conversely, noncurricular-related clubs are student groups whose goals are special interest oriented and not directly related to the curriculum. Meetings of noncurricular-related clubs may be scheduled only at times when instruction is not taking place, either before or after school.

School Center for Special Instructions (SCSI)

School administrators may elect to assign students to the School Center for Special Instruction (SCSI) as an interim alternative educational setting to suspension from school. SCSI is designed to provide strategies and resources to students focused on learning new behavior skills. When misconduct in a class results in an assignment to SCSI, the student should be reassigned from only the class in which the misconduct occurred. Continued misconduct can result in the reassignment from all classes.

School Class Picture Process

The school class picture monies will no longer be collected by school staff for this activity. Collection of monies will be conducted by the photographer and/or photographer's staff.

At no time, shall a staff member, parent, volunteer, or member of a school-allied organization such as the PTA handle school class picture monies.

School Transportation

Miami-Dade County Public Schools will transport more than 60,000 students a day this school year, using a fleet of 1,300 buses on nearly 1100 school-bus routes. The service is for students who live more than two (2) miles from their assigned school and for students with special needs in some instances.

Before school begins, parents/guardians of all students eligible for bus transportation will receive a post card from the school district identifying the student's bus stop and times of pick-up and delivery. Information on student bus assignments will be posted on the Parent Portal at www.dadeschools.net. The information on bus assignments on the [Parent Portal](#) is updated each night. Parents/guardians are encouraged to check the Parent Portal throughout the school year to obtain the most current information on their children's bus assignment.

Parents interested in determining their child's transportation eligibility should contact their child's school for information.

Special Education/Section 504

The School Board of Miami-Dade County ensures that all students suspected of having a disability are identified, evaluated, and provided appropriate, specially designed instruction and related services, if it is determined that the student meets the state's eligibility criteria and the parent/guardian consents to initial placement.

Students who are not eligible for specially designed instruction and related services in accordance with state eligibility categories but have a disability that substantially affects a major life activity may be eligible for accommodations pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

As the parent/guardian of a child with disabilities, you are a very important member of the team that plans your child's education. Be informed and get involved. If you have any questions, please contact your child's school. Staff from the special education department and your child's student service provider will help to answer your questions. Additional information may also be found at <http://ese.dadeschools.net/>.

Student Records

The education records and personally identifiable information of students are protected by The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Florida Statutes. These laws provide that without the prior consent of the parent, guardian or eligible student, a student's records may not be released, except in accordance with the provisions listed in the above-cited laws. The laws provide certain exceptions to the prior consent requirement to the release of student records, which include, but are not limited to, school officials with a legitimate educational interest and lawfully issued subpoenas and court orders with notice prior to disclosure. Parents and eligible students are also provided the right to challenge the accuracy of their education records in accordance with the procedures outlined in School Board Policy 8330. _

Each school must provide to the parent(s), guardian(s) or eligible student(s) an annual notice in writing of their right to inspect and review student records. Once a student reaches 18 years of age or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the consent is required from the student only, unless the student qualifies as a dependent under the law.

Student Services

The Division of Student Services provides prevention and intervention services to PK-Adult students throughout the District. These services focus on the elimination of social and emotional barriers that inhibit students' academic success and prepare students to be college and career ready. An integrated team of uniquely trained student services professionals deliver these direct services to students.

Student Success Centers

The Student Success Centers provide an educational setting and safe-haven for referred students (ages 11 and older) exhibiting Level III-IV behavior and (with Region approval) habitual Level II infractions of the Code of Student Conduct.

The Parent Academy

Miami-Dade County Public Schools created The Parent Academy to bridge the gap between home and school by connecting parents to valuable resources and information, which answers questions on topics that impact children's lives, including helping children learn, parenting skills, financial management, and health and wellness.

The Parent Academy supports parents in becoming more involved in their children's education and empowers them to set and achieve personal empowerment goals for higher education and career advancement by providing free, year-round workshops, classes and events at schools, libraries, parks, colleges, private businesses and neighborhood centers across the county.

Parents can participate in workshops and classes that are aligned to their needs and convenient to their homes and workplaces. Upcoming events and workshop offerings are listed on The Parent Academy website at parentacademymiami.com. For additional information, please call

The Parent Academy at 305-995-2680 or The Department of Family Support Services at 305-271-8257.

Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Students

The School Board of Miami-Dade County has adopted comprehensive anti-discrimination and anti-bullying policies that require all students be treated with respect regardless of their unique characteristics, including sexual orientation or gender identity.¹ Every student has the right to learn in a safe and accepting school environment and schools have a responsibility to provide a safe and nondiscriminatory environment for all students, including transgender and gender nonconforming students.

These guidelines are intended to promote a positive, proactive approach that upholds and protects the rights of transgender and gender nonconforming students; and best practices to ensure that transgender students and gender nonconforming students have equitable access to all aspects of school life (academic, extracurricular and social) in ways that preserve and protect their dignity.

Verifications of Residency

If verification is not provided or acceptable, the Superintendent may verify the student's residence.

Anyone who knowingly makes a false statement in writing with the intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his/her official duty is guilty of a second-degree misdemeanor of the second degree under [F.S. 837.06](#). In addition, anyone who knowingly makes a false verified declaration is guilty of perjury, a third-degree felony under [F.S. 95.525](#).

Volunteer Program

The School Volunteer Program is responsible for electronic registration, background checks and trainings of volunteers. There are two different levels of volunteerism.

Level 1 - complete a database background check	Level 2 - complete a fingerprint background check
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Day chaperones for field trips• Classroom assistants• Math and/or reading tutors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Certified Volunteers• Mentors• Listeners• Athletic/Physical Education assistants• Overnight chaperones.

Any individual interested in volunteering in Miami-Dade County Public Schools must:

- Show a current valid government-issued identification with picture.
- Show a social security card (check name and number).
- Complete a background check.
- Upon clearance, attend an orientation at the school.

COVID-19 Policies and Procedures for the Schoolhouse Instructional Model

During declared health emergencies, the District will implement policies and procedures consistent with applicable Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Florida Department of Health (FDOH) guidance. In addition, as applicable, the District will consult with and comply with applicable local health department protections. Requirements and procedures established by the District in response to an emergency affecting the health safety and welfare of our students and staff will take precedence over provisions of the Parent/Student Handbook when necessary and until the emergency has ended. Due to circumstances related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, Miami-Dade County Public Schools may need to alter or suspend select in-person operations to protect the health and safety of its students, employees, and their families. Please refer to <http://reopening.dadeschools.net/index.html> to find updated information regarding the District's reopening plan. The following procedures and guidelines are applicable to student attendance in brick and mortar buildings during Stage II reopening.

Arrival Procedures During Stage II

Children, parents and visitors are always required to maintain the maximum amount of social distancing possible during arrival. No one should congregate in large groups.

- Students who are dropped off by parent/guardian or ride a SPED bus will be dropped in the front of the school and enter the building using the front entrance.
- Students who ride all other buses will enter the building using the side gate.
- Students will be held in cafeteria and the auditorium following social distance requirements.
- Administration, security, and teachers who are free of classroom duty will monitor those common areas and entrances.
- Inclement weather will not disrupt the current arrival plan.

Dismissal Procedures During Stage II

Children, parents and visitors are always required to maintain the maximum amount of social distancing possible during arrival. No one should congregate in large groups.

- Parent pick up and SPED buses will be in the front of the school. Students will exit out through the front entrance.
- Students who walk or ride all other buses will exit the building through the side gates.
- The auditorium will be utilized to hold students that are not picked up on time.
- Employees who don't have classroom assignments will assist with dismissal to ensure all students exit the building in a timely and safe manner.
- Paraprofessionals will supervise students with intellectual disabilities.

Breakfast/Lunch During Stage II

- Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria.
- The cafeteria can accommodate 96 students following social distance requirements.
- Three lunches will be provided with an average of 88 students in each.
- One AP and two security monitors will supervise each lunch in addition to food service, custodial, and ESE staff.
- Students will utilize the bar codes on their ID's to ensure lunches are touchless.
- Seats are marked for seating to ensure students are following social distance requirements.
- Student are all facing the same direction.
- Custodial staff will rotate through the dining room with garbage cans during lunch to ensure the dining room is free of garbage by the time the lunch period is over.
- Between each lunch period, custodial staff will sanitize tables.

School Transitions

All MDCPS schools have put procedures in place to limit large group gatherings. Signage has been placed throughout every campus to remind students of the expectations to promote the safest learning environment possible. When transition between classrooms is necessary schools have developed a plan of either one way or two-lane hallways depending on school design and need. School staff will monitor transitions to ensure students are maintaining maximum social distancing and wearing face coverings. Parents should remind students of the need to comply with school procedures to ensure their safety as well as their classmates.

- For the majority of students, transitioning for each class period is necessary.
- Self-contained populations will remain in the same classroom throughout the day.
- Classes will need to transition at the same time in order to avoid bottlenecking.
- Restrooms, common areas, and the office will be closed to students during transition.
- Strategically placed security and support staff will enforce school-wide transitioning expectations.
- Passing time will only be for four minutes. The first four minutes of the brain-break/transition time will be used for hand sanitization, lining (with social distancing), and sanitizing desks and door handles when necessary.

School custodial staff will perform routine environmental cleaning or regular cleaning for most surfaces. School site custodial procedures have been adjusted to increase the frequency of sanitizing high-touch areas with hospital-grade germicide throughout the day. Upon the end of each day, custodial teams will sanitize all areas of the campus in preparation for the next day of learning.

Duty to Report Symptoms

If anyone in the student's household is diagnosed with COVID-19, parents/guardians must report that exposure to the school(s). The school will consult with the public health department to assess what precautions should be taken, including but not limited to, asking your student to stay home from school for fourteen (14) days in order to protect the school community. This is a precaution, and the school will work with you to keep your student engaged and current on all schoolwork to the extent possible during the fourteen (14) day period.

Daily Pre-Arrival Health Screening

Before coming to school in the morning, students and parents should assess whether the student has any symptoms of COVID-19. At this time, those symptoms include: a fever over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit; cough; shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; fatigue; muscle or body aches; headache; new loss of taste or smell; sore throat; congestion or runny nose; nausea or vomiting; or diarrhea. If a student develops any of these symptoms, the symptoms should be reported to the school and discussed prior to the student reporting to school.

While the District will not be taking temperature checks on-site at this time, the school will rely on the students, staff, and families to report accurate information for the safety of all the other families affected throughout the District.

All information provided will be kept confidential as required by law, except to the extent that it is necessary to advise or protect staff and other students from transmission of the virus.

If you have symptoms or are diagnosed with COVID-19, or a family member residing in your household tests positive for COVID-19, your student may be required to stay home until they can be tested or receive medical clearance indicating they do not have COVID-19 and can safely return to school.

Expectations of All Students at School

General:

1. Stay home if sick.
2. Sanitize hands with hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol upon entering the building.
3. Wash hands frequently or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available.
4. Avoid touching face and eyes.
5. Wash/sanitize hands after touching or removing facial covering.
6. Limit use of shared objects, such as physical education equipment, playground equipment, art supplies, toys, and games. Shared objects will be cleaned after each use.
7. Bring personal water bottles with water. Water fountains will be turned off and hydration stations will be made available for refills.
8. Follow all directions provided by teachers or administrators for the safety of the school community. It is especially important that students stay in the classrooms and spaces

Face Coverings and Social Distancing:

1. All persons must maximize physical distancing to the extent possible under the circumstances.
2. All persons must wear facial coverings that cover both the mouth and nose when on school board property, at a school board activity, or riding a bus or in other approved transportation. Students and children over 2 years of age are expected to come to school each day with their personal face coverings. However, quality facial coverings will be available for distribution to students in case of emergency or to reduce stigma where necessary. Students are responsible for their own personal property and face coverings

should be stored appropriately. If your child needs a face covering, please contact your child's principal.

3. Facial coverings must be made from a minimum of double layer cloth and be snug fitting to cover both the nose and mouth. Facial coverings should not include any type of exhalation valves or vents or masks designed as a costume.
4. It is recommended to have two face coverings available each day in case one face covering becomes unfit for use. Under no circumstances should student share or swap facial coverings. To learn more about appropriate face covering use and the types of face coverings recommended for use in schools, please review pages 28 and 29 of the District's Reopening Guide [Reopening Guide-English](#)
5. All student facial coverings must meet the requirements of the *Code of Student Conduct* and Policy 5511, Dress Code and School Uniform. Face coverings are apparel/accessory and must not include obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages or pictorial graphics. Face coverings which include inappropriate language that could be perceived as offensive, derogatory, threatening, or intimidating are strictly prohibited. Repeated display of such face coverings will constitute disciplinary measures as outlined in the *Code of Student Conduct*.
6. Refusal to wear a face covering after directed to comply by an authority figure will constitute defiance of school personnel and/or disruptive behavior pursuant to the *Code of Student Conduct*. Continuous refusal to comply may result in a student being assigned to online or remote learning. Developmental ages and intellectual, developmental, and behavioral disabilities must be duly considered by the principal, as appropriate.
7. Students participating in extracurricular activities, such as athletics, musical or theatrical performances, where the wearing of facial coverings is not practicable or may create a health risk, will be directed by their teacher, coach, or advisor as to when facial coverings may be removed during the activity such as swimming or high intensity activities where breathing may be more difficult. However, students must continue to follow maximum social distancing and all other safety procedures in place for the activity and must resume wearing the facial covering when directed to do so.
8. Exemptions from the use of facial coverings must be requested directly to the school principal. Supporting documentation for the any exemption will be required. Students who have difficulty breathing, or sensory issues arising from a documented medical or psychological issue, or students who have communication issues and may require the teacher or service provider to see their mouth, may request an exemption from the Principal. If appropriate, they may be asked to wear a clear facial covering or face shield. Face shields must wrap around the sides of the wearer's face and extend below the chin. Documentation from a medical provider must be on file and reviewed by staff before a student will be excused from this facial covering requirement.
9. Facial coverings should not be required for anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the facial covering without assistance.

Student Illness at School

If a student becomes ill or exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 while at school, the student will be separated from other students and staff to the designated space identified as the school's Isolation Room. While in the Isolation Room, the student will be monitored by school staff. Students must be picked up by a parent/guardian after initial illness identification. The District will

contact parents/guardians and, if needed, the student's emergency contacts. Parents/guardians and/or emergency contacts will be informed of the importance of the student being picked up for the safety of the student and others.

Return to School

1. Students presenting with general illness symptoms that are non-COVID related will need to remain home until they are symptom-free without the use of medication for 24 hours.
2. Students presenting with COVID-like symptoms, **but no known COVID contact**, are required to remain home until they receive a negative COVID test OR are fever-free without the use of medication for 24 hours AND have improved symptoms.
3. Students presenting with COVID-like symptoms, and **have a known COVID contact**, are required to remain home until they are cleared from isolation or quarantine by a medical professional AND they are fever free without the use of medication for 24 hours AND have improved symptoms.

Parents and other Visitors

To prevent the spread of COVID-19, visitor access will be limited and restricted to the main office. Visitors are not permitted to enter any District buildings under the following conditions:

1. The individual has any of the following symptoms: a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher; shortness of breath; cough; loss of taste or smell; muscle aches; weakness; chills; nausea; vomiting; or any other symptoms of COVID-19;
2. The individual has tested positive for COVID-19;
3. The individual has been exposed to someone with symptoms of COVID-19;
4. The individual has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Any visitors that are permitted to enter District buildings will be subject to screening, must wear a face covering and adhere to all District guidelines contained at [MDCPS Reopening Website](#), CDC, FDOH, and local health department guidelines.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDUM TO PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

Student Name

Student ID#

School

Homeroom

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I have read this Addendum to the 2020-2021 Parent/Student Handbook. I agree to abide by these requirements, as well as any other applicable District guidelines, and understand that these requirements are subject to change. In an effort to keep myself and my family safe from infectious disease, specifically COVID-19, I will comply with these requirements.

Specifically, I understand that it is my personal responsibility to ensure that prior to boarding a school bus or arriving at school, I have taken care to assess any potential symptoms of my child, to take my child's temperature, and to ensure that there is no appearance of illness that would warrant my child staying home from school. I acknowledge that this is my responsibility and that for the safety of my school community, I must comply with these policies.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

APPENDIX A – School Calendars



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
REVISED 9/29/20

July 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

August 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

September 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

October 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

November 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

December 2020				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

January 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

February 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

March 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

April 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

May 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
31				

June 2021				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

	New Teachers Report
	Teacher Planning Day
	Teacher Planning Day - (No Opt)
	District-wide Professional Development Day
	Floating Teacher Planning Day (No Opt)

	Recess Day
	Begin/End of Grading Period
	Legal Holiday
	Available to opt
	Teacher Planning Day available to opt

Days in Grading Period	
1 - 36	
2 - 49	
3 - 43	
4 - 47	

For information on employee opt days, please refer to back of calendar.

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR
ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
MIAMI, FLORIDA**

August 19, 2020	Teacher planning day; not available to opt; no students in school
August 20	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 21	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 24	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 25	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 26	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 27	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
August 28	Teacher planning day; not available to opt; no students in school
August 31	First Day of School; begin first semester
September 7	Labor Day; holiday for students and employees
September 28*+§	Teacher planning day; no students in school
October 2*	Teacher planning day; not available to opt; no students in school
October 22	End first grading period; first semester
October 23	Teacher planning day; not available to opt; no students in school
October 26	Begin second grading period; first semester
November 3	Teacher planning day; District-wide Professional Development Day - not available to opt; no students in school
November 11	Observance of Veterans' Day; holiday for students and employees
November 25*+§	Teacher planning day; no students in school
November 26	Thanksgiving; Board-approved holiday for students and employees
November 27	Recess Day
December 21-	Winter recess for students and employees with the exception of Fraternal Order of Police and select 12-month employees
January 1, 2021	Observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday; holiday for students and employees
January 18	End first semester and second grading period
January 22	Begin third grading period; second semester
January 25	All Presidents Day; holiday for students and employees
February 15	End third grading period; second semester
March 25	Teacher planning day; no students in school
March 26*+§	Spring recess for students and employees with the exception of Fraternal Order of Police and select 12-month employees
March 29-	Begin fourth grading period; second semester
April 2	Observance of Memorial Day; holiday for students and employees
April 5	Last Day of School; end fourth grading period; second semester
May 31	Teacher planning day; not available to opt; no students in school
June 9	
June 10	

NOTE: Every Wednesday students in elementary schools (Grades 2-5) and K-8 Centers (Grades 2-8) are released one (1) hour early

Job Category	Beginning Date	Ending Date
Teachers new to the system	August 12, 2020	June 10, 2021
Assistant Principals and 10-month clerical	August 12, 2020	June 17, 2021
Cafeteria Managers	August 14, 2020	June 10, 2021
Satellite Assistants	August 18, 2020	June 9, 2021
All Instructional Staff, Paraprofessionals & Security	August 19, 2020	June 10, 2021
Assistant to Cafeteria Managers/MAT Specialists	August 20, 2020	June 9, 2021
Cafeteria Workers (part-time)	August 24, 2020	June 9, 2021

*Teachers/paraprofessionals and school support personnel may opt to work one or two days, August 17, 18, 2020, or June 11, 14, 2021, in lieu of any one or two of the following days: September 28, 2020, November 25, 2020, March 26, 2021. August 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2020, and November 3, 2020 are District-wide Professional Development Days and are not available to opt. October 23, 2020 is a Teacher Planning Day not available to opt. May 28, 2021 is a Floating Teacher Planning Day prior to returning to the traditional schoolhouse in Stage 2; not available to opt. Should M-DCPS not be able to transition to the traditional schoolhouse, May 28, 2021 will be a Teacher planning day available to opt.

+Teachers new to Miami-Dade County Public Schools may opt to work one or two days, June 11, 14, 2021, in lieu of any one or two of the following days: September 28, 2020, November 25, 2020, March 26, 2021. August 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2020, and November 3, 2020 are District-wide Professional Development Days and are not available to opt. October 23, 2020 is a Teacher Planning Day not available to opt. May 28, 2021 is a Floating Teacher Planning Day prior to returning to the traditional schoolhouse in Stage 2; not available to opt. Should M-DCPS not be able to transition to the traditional schoolhouse, May 28, 2021 will be a Teacher planning day available to opt.

#Ten-month secretarial and clerical employees may opt to work one or two days August 10, 11, 2020, or June 18, 21, 2021, in lieu of any one or two of the following days: September 28, 2020, November 25, 2020, March 26, 2021. August 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, 27, 2020, and November 3, 2020 are District-wide Professional Development Days and are not available to opt. October 23, 2020 is a Teacher Planning Day not available to opt. May 28, 2021 is a Floating Teacher Planning Day prior to returning to the traditional schoolhouse in Stage 2; not available to opt. Should M-DCPS not be able to transition to the traditional schoolhouse, May 28, 2021 will be a Teacher planning day available to opt.

APPENDIX B – Florida Statutes and School Board Policies

View all School Board Policies at: [School Board Bylaws & Policies](#)

Academics

- **2235 - MUSIC, ART, AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
 - Music, art, and physical education are fundamental subjects in the school's curriculum because they contribute to every child's academic and social development. Art and Music education helps level the "learning field" across socio-economic boundaries while strengthening student problem-solving and critical thinking skills and contributing to the overall academic achievement of students.
- **2240 - CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES AND STUDENT EXPRESSION**
 - Students are encouraged to participate in discussions, speeches, and other expressions in which many points of view, including those that are controversial, are freely explored. A controversial issue is a topic on which opposing points of view have been promulgated by responsible opinion or likely to arouse both support and opposition in the community.
- **2370.01 – VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION**
 - The enrollment period for the District-operated full-time virtual instruction program, Miami-Dade Online Academy, opens in the spring of each school year for a minimum of ninety days and closes thirty days before the first day of the school year.
- **2421 - K-12 CAREER-TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**
 - Career-technical education is designed to provide career and technical education experiences. These experiences will complement and reinforce academic concepts that are particularly amenable to contextualized learning in a distinct career area and provide occupationally specific skills.
- **2440 - SUMMER SCHOOL**
 - The School Board may conduct a summer program of academic instruction for students in grades K-12 and Special Education (SPED) students needing extended school year services as identified in their Individual Education Plan (I.E.P.). The School Board may also choose to implement summer enhancement programs, contingent upon available funding. The School Board shall provide transportation for full-time SPED students and other students as appropriate.
- **2510 – INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND RESOURCES**
 - Parents have the ability to access their child's instructional materials at <http://im.dadeschools.net/>.
 - Additionally, in accordance with School Board Policy 2416, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum of the student and within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the building principal.
- **5410 - STUDENT PROGRESSION PLAN**
 - Provides guidance to teachers, school and district administrators, parents and other stakeholders regarding the requirements and procedures for students to progress from one grade to the next, Kindergarten through grade 12 and Adult Education. The information presented in the document is derived from requirements set forth by Florida Statutes, State Board of Education Rules and policies established by The School Board of Miami-Dade County.

Accident Reports/Incident Reports/School Safety

- **3213 - STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE**
 - Protecting the physical and emotional well-being of students is of paramount importance. Each instructional staff member shall maintain the highest professional, moral, and ethical standards in dealing with the supervision, control, and protection of students on or off school property
- **5540 - INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING STUDENTS**
 - School administrators shall respond to incidents involving students occurring on school grounds or at school-sponsored events. When conducting an initial fact inquiry, if an administrator suspects that a crime has been committed, they must report the matter to School Police or another appropriate law enforcement agency to assume the investigative responsibilities.
- **5772 - WEAPONS**
 - Students are prohibited from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon, including a concealed weapon, in a school safety zone and any setting that is under the control and supervision of the School Board for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the School Board including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the School Board, a school-sponsored event, or in a School Board-owned vehicle.
- **7217 - WEAPONS**
 - Visitors are prohibited from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon, including a concealed weapon, in a school safety zone and any setting that is under the control and supervision of the School Board for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the School Board including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the School Board, a school-sponsored event, or in a School Board-owned vehicle.
- **8405 - SCHOOL SAFETY**
 - The School Board is committed to maintaining a safe and drug-free environment in all of the District's schools. School crime and violence are multifaceted problems that need to be addressed in a manner that utilizes all available resources in the community through a coordinated effort of School District personnel, law enforcement agencies, and families. School administrators and local law enforcement officials must work together to provide for the safety and welfare of students while they are at school or a school-related event or are on their way to and from school.
- **8410 - CRITICAL INCIDENT RESPONSE/EMERGENCY PROCEDURES**
 - The District Critical Incident Response Team (DCIRT) is responsible for assisting schools with emergencies/critical incidents as needed and coordinate District resources.
- **FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 943.082 – SCHOOL SAFETY AWARENESS PROGRAM**
 - FortifyFL is a suspicious activity reporting tool that allows users to instantly relay information to appropriate law enforcement agencies and school officials. FortifyFL was created and funded by the 2018 Florida Legislature as part of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Act. It is available for free download from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store. It may also be accessed from the

Dadeschools.net homepage, as well as the student, parent, and employee portal pages. A link to FortifyFI has also been placed on each school site information page.

Admission, Registration and Immunization Requirements

- **5112 - ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**
 - Establishes the admission and registration requirements for students entering school. The following documents and forms are to be provided upon initial registration:
 - Original birth certificate
 - Verification of age and legal name
 - Proof of a physical examination by an approved health care provider including a tuberculosis clinical screening, appropriate follow-up, and a certificate of immunization
 - Two (2) verification of parent/legal current residence (address)
- **5114 - FOREIGN STUDENTS**
 - Entry requirements into schools are the same for all students, regardless of country of birth and immigration status. All students will register at the school of the actual residence of the parent in the attendance area as approved by the School Board.
- **5320 – IMMUNIZATION**
 - All students shall be immunized against polio, measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) diphtheria, pertussis tetanus (DTaP), hepatitis B, and varicella (chicken pox). Student's with a documented history of the varicella (chicken pox) disease are not required to receive the varicella vaccine. This policy applies to students who currently attend school in the District and those eligible to attend.
 - A student who has not completed the required immunization will not be admitted to school.
 - Students may receive the Hemophilus Influenzae vaccine during school hours for free. Parents/Guardians MUST provide consent. Parents/guardians should contact their child's school to determine when the flu vaccine will be offered at their child's school.

Animals on District Property

- **8390 - ANIMALS ON DISTRICT PROPERTY**
 - Service animals as required by law are permitted in schools. "Service animals" pursuant to 28 C.F.R. 35.104, means any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.
 - All animals, including service animals, housed on District property or brought on District property on a regular basis must meet every State and County veterinary requirement, including but not limited to, rabies vaccination or other inoculations required to be properly licensed.
 - Students are not allowed to bring pets to school.

Anti-Discrimination Policy

- **1362, 3362 & 4362 - ANTI-DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT**
 - The School Board will vigorously enforce its prohibition against discrimination/harassment based on sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, citizenship status, religion, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, gender identification, social and family background, linguistic preference, pregnancy, and any other legally prohibited basis.
 - This policy provides the steps to individual complaints of discrimination of harassing conduct and the process for addressing the complaints.

- **5517 – ANTI-DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT (STUDENTS)**
 - The School Board shall comply with all Federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination/harassment based on sex, race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, gender, gender identification, social and family background, linguistic preference, pregnancy, and any other basis prohibited by law and all requirements and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. The School Board will enforce its prohibition against such discrimination/harassment against students by other students in accordance with School Board Policies 5517 and 5517.02. This policy prohibits discrimination and harassment at all School District operations, programs, and activities on school property, or at another location if it occurs during an activity sponsored by the School Board.
- **5517.01 – BULLYING AND HARASSMENT**
 - The School Board is committed to providing a safe learning environment for all students and shall strive to eradicate bullying and harassment in its schools, with bullying defined as systematically and chronically inflicting physical harm or psychological distress on one or more students.
 - The School Board is committed to providing awareness, prevention, and education in promoting a school atmosphere in which bullying, harassment, and intimidation will not be tolerated by students, School Board employees, visitors, or volunteers.
 - This policy provides the steps to individual complaints of bullying and harassment and the process for addressing the complaints.
- **5517.02 - DISCRIMINATION/HARASSMENT COMPLAINT PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS**
 - Students and parents are encouraged to promptly report complaints of discriminatory or harassing conduct to their Principal. Additionally, they may file the complaint directly with the Region Office or the District's Office of Civil Rights Compliance (CRC).
 - All complaints involving student to student harassment, including sexual harassment, will be first investigated at the school site. If such complaints are made directly to the District Office, the Region Office or the CRC Office, they will be referred to the school site for the initial investigation. Complaints involving harassment, including sexual harassment, of a student by an employee or other representatives of the school system will be investigated by the CRC Office.
 - This policy provides the steps to individual complaints of discrimination and harassment based on protected categories and the process for addressing the complaints.

Attendance Policy/School Hours

- **5200 – ATTENDANCE**
 - Student attendance is a means of improving student performance and critical in raising student achievement. Together, the staff of Miami-Dade County Public Schools, students, parents and the community must make every effort to lessen the loss of instructional time to students.
- **5225 - ABSENCES FOR RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS**
 - Student absences for religious purposes, as identified on the approved holidays listed in the Student Attendance Reporting Procedures PK-12 Handbook, may not prohibit students from receiving attendance awards or other attendance incentives at the school level, region level, or District level.
- **5230 - LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL**

- Students shall be in attendance throughout the school day. If a student will be late to school or dismissed before the end of the school day, the parent shall notify the school in advance and state the reason for the tardiness or early dismissal. Justifiable reasons shall be determined by the principal. Students will be counted absent if they are not present in class for at least half of the class period. To be counted "present" for the day, the student must be in attendance for a minimum of two hours of the day unless extenuating circumstances exist.
- The parent – and in the case of divorced or separated parents, the enrolling parent shall indicate on the Emergency Student Data Form the individual(s) to whom the student may be released during the school day.
- 8220 - SCHOOL DAY
 - The Superintendent shall annually establish the hours of the school day. The Superintendent may authorize exceptions from the regular school day.
 - The Superintendent may close the schools, delay the opening of school, or dismiss school early when such alteration in the regular session is required for the protection of the health and safety of students and staff members.

Ceremonies & Observances

- 8800 - RELIGIOUS/PATRIOTIC CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES
 - Acknowledgement of, explanation of, and teaching about religious holidays of various religions is permitted. Celebration activities involving nonreligious decorations and use of secular works are permitted, but it is the responsibility of all faculty members to ensure that such activities are strictly voluntary, do not place an atmosphere of social compulsion or ostracism on minority groups or individuals, and do not interfere with the regular school program.

Class Size

- CLASS SIZE STATE STATUTE
 - Florida citizens approved an amendment that set limits on the number of students in core academic classes in public schools. The amendment requires classes to be in compliance at the class level. However, pursuant to language passed by the 2013 Florida Legislature in HB 7009 and subsequently approved by the Governor, amending Florida Statute 1002.31, Public School Parental Choice, the calculation for compliance with class size limits pursuant to Florida Statute 1003.03 for a school or program that is a public school of choice is measured by the average number of students at the school level.

Clinic

- 5330 – USE OF MEDICATIONS
 - The School Board shall not be responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of student illness. The administration of prescribed medication and/or medically-prescribed treatments to a student during school hours will be permitted only when failure to do so would jeopardize the health of the student, the student would not be able to attend school if the medication or treatment were not made available during school hours, or the child is disabled and requires medication to benefit from his/her educational program.

Code of Student Conduct

- 2451 - ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL PROGRAMS
 - The Superintendent may provide alternative education programs for students who, in the opinion of the Superintendent, will benefit from this educational option. Participation in an alternative program does not exempt the student from complying with school attendance rules or the Code of Conduct.

- 5136.02 - SEXTING
 - Sexting is the act of sending or forwarding through cellular telephones and other electronic media sexually explicit, nude, or partially nude photographs/images. [add something about disciplinary measures] It is the District's mission to ensure the social, physical, psychological, and academic well-being of all students. The educational purposes of the schools are best accomplished in a climate of student behavior that is socially acceptable and conducive to the learning and teaching process.
- 5500 - STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE
 - The Code of Student Conduct (COSC) is aligned to local, state, and federal mandates with an emphasis on promoting a safe learning environment to ensure academic success. The Code of Student Conduct sets the standards of conduct expected of students in a purposeful safe learning environment which the principles of care, courtesy, civility, fairness, acceptance of diversity, and respect for the rights of others is valued. It also addresses the role of the parents/guardians, the students, and school, but also focuses on core values and model student behavior, rights and responsibilities of students, addressing student behavior, and disciplinary procedures.
 - Furthermore, it should also be noted that behaviors committed on or off the school campus may be violations of the COSC and may also be violations of Florida law. These violations may result in disciplinary actions imposed by local law enforcement authorities, in addition to those of the school/district. The Superintendent, principals, and other administrators shall assign discipline/corrective strategies to students, including assignment to an interim alternative educational setting pursuant to the Code of Student Conduct and, in accordance with the student's due process rights.
- 5511 - DRESS CODE AND SCHOOL UNIFORMS
 - Students are expected to come to school with proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness, grooming, and neatness of dress. Students whose personal attire or grooming distracts the attention of other students or teachers from their school work shall be required to make the necessary alterations to such attire or grooming before entering the classroom or be sent home by the principal to be properly prepared for school. Students who fail to meet the minimum acceptable standards of cleanliness and neatness as determined by the principal and as specified in this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

Digital Conversion/Social Media

- 7540.03 - STUDENT RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND DISTRICT NETWORK SYSTEMS
 - The School Board provides students access to a large variety of technology and network resources which provide multiple opportunities to enhance learning and improve communication within the school district and the community. All users must, however, exercise appropriate and responsible use of school and District technology and information systems. Users include anyone authorized by administration to use the network. This policy is intended to promote the most effective, safe, productive, and instructionally sound uses of network information and communication tools.

Equal Opportunity

- 2260 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

- The School Board shall provide equal opportunity for all students and will not discriminate or tolerate harassment in its educational programs or activities on any basis prohibited by law or School Board Policy.
- 5111.01 - HOMELESS STUDENTS
 - Homeless children and youth, including those who are not currently enrolled in school due to homelessness, shall have equal access to the same free appropriate public education and preschool education programs in the same manner as all other District students. Additionally, homeless students shall have access to other services needed to ensure an opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held and to fully participate in the District's academic and extra-curricular activities for which they meet relevant eligibility criteria.

Fieldtrips/School Social Events

- 2340 - FIELD AND OTHER DISTRICT-SPONSORED TRIPS
 - Field trips should supplement and enrich classroom procedures by providing learning experiences in an environment outside the schools, arouse new interests among students, help students relate school experiences to the reality of the world outside of school, bring the resources of the community - natural, artistic, industrial, commercial, governmental, educational - within the student's learning experience, and afford students the opportunity to study real things and real processes in their actual environment.
 - Other District-sponsored trips are defined as any planned, student-travel activity approved as part of the District's total educational program and is under the direct supervision and control of an instructional staff member or any advisor designated by the Superintendent.
- 5850 - SCHOOL SOCIAL EVENTS
 - School facilities and appropriate staff will be made available for social events approved by the principal within and outside school facilities.
- 8640 - TRANSPORTATION FOR FIELD AND OTHER DISTRICT-SPONSORED TRIPS
 - Regular or special-purpose school vehicles shall be used for transportation on field and other District-sponsored trips.

Financial Obligations

- 6152 - STUDENT FEES
 - The School Board may levy certain charges to students to facilitate the utilization of adequate, appropriate learning materials used in the course of instruction.

Food & Nutrition/Wellness Policy

- 8500 - FOOD SERVICES
 - The Food and Nutrition service program strives to provide school food services consistent with the nutritional needs of students and provide school food services that contribute to the student's educational experiences and the development of desirable eating habits.
- 8510 - WELLNESS POLICY
 - The District is committed to providing a healthy environment for students and staff within the school environment, recognizing that individuals must be physically, mentally, and socially healthy in order to promote wellness and academic performance.

- The District focuses on achieving five goals: nutrition, physical education, physical activity: recess, health & nutrition literacy and preventive healthcare.
- 8531 - FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE MEALS
 - All students determined to be economically needy shall be provided upon request a free or reduced price meal or meals at school.

Fundraising

- 5830 – STUDENT FUNDRAISING
 - Student fundraising by students is limited in order to prevent disruption and includes student solicitation and collection of money for any purpose including collection of money in exchange for tickets, papers, or any other goods or services. Student fundraising in school, on school property, or at any school-sponsored event is permitted only when the profit is to be used for school purposes or for an activity connected with the schools.
 - No student, school organization, or member of the school staff may solicit funds in the name of the school from the public for any purpose without prior approval of the school principal and the Region Superintendent or his/her designee. All approvals must be in writing using the approved District forms and must be retained at the school for audit purposes.
- 6605 – CROWDFUNDING
 - Crowdfunding activities aimed at raising funds for a specific classroom or school activity, including extra-curricular activity, or to obtain supplemental resources (e.g., supplies or equipment) that are not required to provide a free appropriate public education to any students in the classroom may be permitted, but only with the specific approval by the principal and the region administrator. Crowdfunding for specific causes requires the approval of the Superintendent or his/her designee.
- 9211 - PARENT ORGANIZATIONS, BOOSTER CLUBS, AND OTHER FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES
 - The School Board appreciates the efforts of all organizations whose objectives are to enhance the educational experiences of District students, to help meet educational needs of students and/or provide extra educational benefits.

Health Screening

- 2410 - SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PROGRAM
 - The health services provided by the District shall supplement, not replace, parental responsibility, and shall appraise, protect, and promote student health. These services shall be designed to encourage parents to devote attention to child health, to discover health problems, and to encourage the use of the services of physicians, dentists, and community health agencies as needed.
 - Vision, hearing, scoliosis, and growth and development screenings are conducted based on mandated grade levels. Screenings do not substitute a thorough examination in a medical providers office. Parents/guardians must provide the school with written notification if you **do not** want your child to participate in the screening program.

Homework

- 2330 - HOMEWORK

- Homework is an essential component of the learning process for students with the assignment of meaningful learning activities. Assignments should be based on learning outcomes that build students' conceptual understanding, develop thinking skills, and focus on the application of knowledge.

Internship

- 2424 - STUDENT INTERNSHIPS
 - Student participation in an internship program authorized by the High School to Business Career Enhancement Act may serve as a positive educational experience and provide a foundation for future employment opportunities.

Parent Choice Student Transfers

- 2431 - INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS
 - All activities relating to competitive sport contests, games, or events involving individual students or teams of students from high schools in this District with those from a high school in another district.
 - All high schools shall be members of and governed by the Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSAA) rules and regulations and shall comply with the eligibility requirements established by the FHSAA.
- 5120 - STUDENT SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT AND ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY COMMITTEE
 - The assignment of students to District schools shall be consistent with the best interests of students and the best use of District resources.
- 5131 – CONTROLLED OPEN ENROLLMENT/PARENT / STUDENT TRANSFERS
 - This policy governs all regular school transfers from one (1) school to another, except for transfers to magnet schools and programs that are subject to specific admissions requirements and/or random lotteries that are governed by School Board Policy 2370, Magnet Programs/Schools.
 - Controlled Open Enrollment allows the School District to make K-12 school assignments using parents indicated preferential educational choice in-county and out-of-county. This section of the policy does not apply to charter schools. Charter schools must adopt their own controlled open enrollment plan.
 - Controlled Open Enrollment is active during a specific window period between end of year and the subsequent school year.

Parent Involvement

- 2111 - PARENT INVOLVEMENT– A HOME-SCHOOL-DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP
 - A collaborative environment is encouraged in which the parents and families of District students are invited and encouraged to be involved stakeholders in the school community. This policy establishes the framework and responsibilities for implementation of strategies to increase family and community involvement. A copy of this policy must be distributed to all parents.
- 9210 - PARENT ORGANIZATIONS
 - The Parent-Teacher/Parent-Teacher-Student Associations (PTA/PTSA) in the District are acknowledged as sincerely interested in, and staunch supporters of public education in Miami-Dade County.

Pledge of Allegiance

- 8810 - THE AMERICAN FLAG
 - The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited at the beginning of the day in every school.
 - A student has the right not to participate in reciting the pledge. Upon written request by his/her parent, the student must be excused from reciting the pledge, including standing and placing the right hand over his/her heart.

Privacy^(OBJ)

- 2416 - STUDENT PRIVACY AND PARENTAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION
 - Parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party or any instrument used in the collection of personal information before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parent will have access to the survey/evaluation or instrument within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the principal.

Schools of Choice/Magnet Schools

- 2370 - MAGNET PROGRAMS/SCHOOLS
 - Magnet programs/schools broaden public school choice, stem declining enrollment, mitigate overcrowding, help comply with Federal and State-mandated public school choice provisions, accommodate parent/student interest, improve the quality of education, and promote diverse student enrollments. Magnet programs/schools are unique educational programs operating within the District, for which additional resources and/or ancillary services may be provided to help make such educational experiences available to students beyond a single attendance boundary area.

School Transportation/Bus Safety Conduct

- 8600 – TRANSPORTATION
 - Students living more than two miles from their home school will be eligible for District-provided bus transportation. Students who attend school out of their home school zone will not be eligible for District-provided transportation.

Special Education/Section 504

- 2260.01 SECTION 504 PROCUDURES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
 - A student is entitled to a free appropriate public education FAPE and may be entitled to Section 504 accommodations if s/he has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one (1) or more major life activities.
- 2460 – EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT EDUCATION
 - The School Board shall provide a free, appropriate, public education for students with disabilities according to State and Federal laws, rules, and regulations and shall implement the procedures document entitled Exceptional Student Education Policies and Procedures.
- FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 1003.572 - PUBLIC-PRIVATE COLLABORATION
 - Parents who wish to request public-private collaboration in the educational setting should direct requests to the Principal for application of District procedures. Requests should be made in writing on District forms and specify the purpose of the collaboration. The principal will review requests and provide approval in accordance with statutory guidelines.

Student Activities

- 5845 - STUDENT ACTIVITIES

- All clubs and organizations approved by the principal to operate within the school must comply with this district policy. A student who wishes to represent the school through interscholastic competitions or performance must comply with the criteria set forth in policy.

Student Records/Access to Student Records

- 8330 - STUDENT RECORDS
 - Parents and eligible students have the right to access education records, including the right to inspect and review those records, and have the right to waive their access to their education records in certain circumstances. Prior written consent of the parent, guardian, or eligible student shall be obtained prior to disclosing personally identifiable student information, except under certain circumstances.
- 8350 - CONFIDENTIALITY
 - A student's educational record and all personally identifiable information shall not be properly released except on the condition that the information being transferred will not be subsequently released to any other party without first obtaining the consent of the parent or adult/eligible student.

Student Services

- 2290 - CHARACTER EDUCATION
 - The School Board shall assist all students in developing the core values and strength of character needed for them by to become caring, responsible citizens at home, school, and in the community. There are nine core values that form the basis for the character education program. These values are Citizenship, Cooperation, Fairness, Honesty, Kindness, Integrity, Pursuit of Excellence, Respect, and Responsibility.
- 5530 - DRUG PREVENTION
 - Schools shall strive to prevent drug abuse and help drug abusers through educational means.
 - The use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug or any drug-related paraphernalia, or the misuse of a product containing a substance that can provide an intoxicating or mood-altering effect or the misuse of any "over-the-counter" medications or substances are prohibited on school grounds, on school vehicles, and at any school-sponsored event.
- FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 1006.07(7)
 - The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Act, among other things, requires the school district to form Threat Assessment Teams at each school to coordinate resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff of students.

Title I – Schoolwide Program

- 2261 - TITLE I SERVICES
 - The School Board shall augment the educational program of disadvantaged students through the use of Federal funds, in compliance with all Federal or statutory requirements as outlined in the Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Act of 1965 and its amendments.

Technology

- 7540 – COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS
 - The School Board is committed to the effective use of technology to both enhance the quality of student learning and the efficiency of Board operations. The School

Board prohibits any access and use of social media by students and staff members from the District's network, except to the District's collaboration sites and/or approved sites as directed by the Superintendent.

- 7540.01 – TECHNOLOGY PRIVACY
 - All computers, telephone systems, electronic mail systems, and voice mail systems are the District's property and are to be used primarily for business purposes. The District has the right to access and review all electronic and voice mail, computer files, data bases, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or used in conjunction with the District's computer system, telephone system, electronic mail system, and voice mail system.
- 7540.03 – STUDENT RESPONSIBLE USE OF TECHNOLOGY, SOCIAL MEDIA, AND DISTRICT NETWORK SYSTEMS
 - ~~OBJ:~~ The School Board provides students access to a large variety of technology and network resources which provide multiple opportunities to enhance learning and improve communication within the school district and the community. All users must, however, exercise appropriate and responsible use of school and District technology and information systems. Users include anyone authorized by administration to use the network. This policy is intended to promote the most effective, safe, productive, and instructionally sound uses of network information and communication tools.
- 7540.06 – STUDENT ELECTRONIC MAIL
 - This policy establishes the use of District student electronic mail (e-mail) system by students, their parents and others and applies to any and all electronic messages composed, sent or received by anyone using the District's student e-mail system. Authorized users of e-mail are students, their parents and any other individuals or groups issued District student e-mail accounts

Threat Assessments

- FLORIDA STATUTES, SECTION 1006.07(7)
 - The Marjory Stoneman Douglas Act, among other things, requires the school district to form Threat Assessment Teams at each school to coordinate resources and assessment and intervention with individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school staff of students.

Visitors

- 9150 - SCHOOL VISITORS
 - Parents, other adult residents of the community, and interested educators are encouraged to visit schools. All visitors must present identification that will be processed through the District's RAPTOR system prior to being permitted entry into the school grounds.
 - The Principal has the authority, however, to prohibit the entry of any person to a school or expel any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental. If an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the principal is authorized to request assistance from School Police or the local law enforcement agency to remove the individual. A visitor's refusal to adhere to the school principal's directive to leave the school grounds, will subject the visitor to arrest.

Volunteer Program

- 2430.01 - SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS
 - The School Board recognizes that certain programs and activities can be enhanced through the use of volunteers who have knowledge or skills that will be helpful to members of the school staff who are responsible for the conduct of those programs and activities. A school volunteer is any non-compensated person who may be appointed by the Superintendent or his/her designee. School volunteers may include, but are not limited to, parents, senior citizens, students, and others who assist the teacher or other members of the school staff.

APPENDIX C – Disclosure at Time of Registration



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

DISCLOSURE AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

Chapter 1006.07 (1)(b), requires that any student seeking admission to a public school in the State of Florida will provide the following information at the time of initial registration:

- 1) Has the student ever been expelled from any school, in or out of the State of Florida?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If your answer to question 1 is "YES", please list each and every instance for which the student was expelled.

- 2) Please state whether the student has ever been arrested where the arrest resulted in the student being formally charged. If your answer is "YES", please list each and every arrest which resulted in a formal charge.

- 3) Please state whether the student has ever been involved as a party in a case before the Juvenile Justice System? If so, state each action taken by the Juvenile Justice System which involved the student.

- 4) Please state whether the student has any corresponding referrals to mental health services related to your answers to Questions 1, 2 and 3. If yes, please list them.

Student's Name _____ ID. # _____

(Please Print)

Ethnic _____ (Check all that apply) Race: White ☐ Black ☐ Asian ☐
Hispanic _____ American Indian ☐ Native Pacific Islander ☐

Date of Birth _____ Parent's/Guardian's Name _____

Address _____

Signature (Parent/Guardian) _____

Signature (Student) _____ Date Signed _____

FM-5740E Rev. (07-19)

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
ADHERES TO A POLICY OF NONDISCRIMINATION IN THE EDUCATIONAL AND WORK ENVIRONMENT

DISCRIMINATION / HARASSMENT

It is the policy of the School Board that all students and employees be treated with respect. The School Board affirmatively strives to provide a workplace and educational environment free from discrimination and harassment (including sexual harassment), as required by law. Through this policy, the School Board establishes its intent to provide equal access, opportunity, and treatment to students in the provision of educational programs and activities and to applicants and employees in all aspects of employment. Slurs, innuendos, hostile treatment, violence, or verbal or physical conduct against a student or employee reflecting on his/her race, ethnic or national origin, gender or any other of the categories described below, will NOT be tolerated by the School Board.

The School Board Policy Covers the Following Protected Categories:

AGE - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's age.

CITIZENSHIP STATUS - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's citizenship or immigration status.

COLOR - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's skin tone. Color discrimination can occur within the same race; for example someone who has a darker complexion may discriminate against someone that has a lighter complexion.

DISABILITY - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person has, or is perceived to have a permanent impairment that substantially limits or prevents a major life activity; for example: walking, seeing, hearing, talking, sitting, or standing.

ETHNIC/NATIONAL ORIGIN - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's ancestry, place of origin, or because an individual has the physical, cultural or linguistic characteristics of a particular group.

GENDER - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's gender or sex.

GENDER IDENTITY - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's gender-related identity, appearance, expression or behavior, regardless of the individual's assigned sex at birth.

GENETIC INFORMATION (GINA) - This category prevents denial of equal employment and/or harassment because of a person's genetic information; it ensures that individuals are not treated differently because of genetic information.

LINGUISTIC PREFERENCE - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of the language a person speaks.

MARITAL STATUS - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's marital status; i.e. single, married, widowed, or divorced.

POLITICAL BELIEFS - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's support and/or affiliation or lack thereof with a particular political party.

PREGNANCY - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities for women who are pregnant.

RACE - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's race. The five federally recognized racial categories are American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian, Black or African American, Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, and White. Persons from a mixed racial background do not need to prove their exact heritage in order to assert that they have been discriminated against based on race. Likewise, this category covers persons being discriminated against because they are married to persons of a different race other than their own.

RELIGION - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's sincerely held religious beliefs.

SEX - This category prevents denial of equal employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's male or female gender.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION - This category prevents denial of equal employment and/or educational opportunities because a person is, or is perceived to be, lesbian, gay, bisexual, or heterosexual.

SOCIAL AND FAMILY BACKGROUND - This category prevents denial of employment and/or educational opportunities because of a person's socio-economic, family and/or educational background.

Sexual Harassment will NOT be tolerated.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS (M-DCPS) DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN ANY EDUCATION PROGRAM OR ACTIVITY THAT IT OPERATES AS REQUIRED BY TITLE IX. M-DCPS ALSO DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF SEX IN ADMISSIONS OR EMPLOYMENT.

RETALIATION AGAINST A STUDENT OR EMPLOYEE WHO FILES A COMPLAINT IS PROHIBITED BY LAW

Retaliation is an adverse action taken against an individual because they engaged in a protected activity, such as complaining about discrimination, threatening to file a charge of discrimination, or participating in investigative proceedings.

For additional information about Title IX or any other discrimination/harassment concerns, contact the U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights and/or:

Office of Civil Rights Compliance (CRC)

Executive Director/Title IX Coordinator
155 N.E. 15th Street, Suite P104E
Miami, Florida 33132
Phone: (305) 995-1580 TDD: (305) 995-2400
Email: crc@dadeschools.net
Website: <https://www.hrdadeschools.net/civilrights/>

For information on Section 604 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or any other student disability concerns contact:

Division of Special Education

504 Coordinator
1501 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Suite 409
Miami, Florida 33132
Phone: (305) 995-2037 TDD: (305) 995-2400
Email: ese@dadeschools.net
Website: <http://ese.dadeschools.net>

Rev: 07/2020

Anti-Discrimination Policy

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender. M-DCPS does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates as required by Title IX. M-DCPS also does not discriminate on the basis of sex in admissions or employment.

Age Discrimination Act of 1975 - prohibits discrimination based on age in programs or activities.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA) as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40 years old.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963 as amended - prohibits gender discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to eligible employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, marital status, or handicap against a student or employee.

Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 - secures for all individuals within the state freedom from discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status.

Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) - prohibits discrimination against employees or applicants because of genetic information.

Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act of 2002 - No public school shall deny equal access to, or a fair opportunity for groups to meet on school premises or in school facilities before or after school hours, or discriminate against any group officially affiliated with Boy Scouts of America or any other youth or community group listed in Title 36 (as a patriotic society).

Veterans are provided re-employment rights in accordance with P.L. 93-508 (Federal Law) and Section 295.07 (Florida Statutes), which stipulate categorical preferences for employment.

In Addition:

School Board Policies 1362, 3362, 4362, and 5517 - Prohibit harassment and/or discrimination against students, employees, or applicants on the basis of race, color, ethnic or national origin, religion, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, sex/gender, gender identification, social and family background, linguistic preference, pregnancy, citizenship status, and any other legally prohibited basis. Retaliation for engaging in a protected activity is also prohibited.

For additional information about Title IX or any other discrimination/harassment concerns, contact the U.S. Department of Education Asst. Secretary for Civil Rights or:

Office of Civil Rights Compliance (CRC)

Executive Director/Title IX Coordinator

155 N.E. 15th Street, Suite P104E

Miami, Florida 33132

Phone: (305) 995-1580 TDD: (305) 995-2400

Email: crc@dadeschools.net Website: <https://dadeschools.net/civilrights>

Revised 07/2020